

SPECIFICATION

Please enter the following amendments to the specification:

[0026] FIG. 4 is a flow diagram depicting an exemplary embodiment of a two-tier content/satellite-link protection process 400 for use with the master headend 102 shown in FIG. 3. The process 400 begins at step 402. At step 404, EMM data for the content services is generated. The content EMM data may ~~comprises~~ comprise one or more EMM streams used to authorize subscriber STBs for viewing particular content services. At step 410, one or more services are created for carrying the content EMM data ("content EMM services"). Each of the content EMM services may comprise one or more EMM streams and a program map table (PMT). The PMT includes packet identifier (PID) information for identifying the component EMM streams. The content EMM services may be "dummy services", which are not identified in the channel map and are thus invisible to the subscriber STBs.

[0029] The TMX 308 receives content EMM data 512 from the content CA system 310. The content EMM data 512 is used to authorize the subscriber STBs. The TMX 308 generates EMM service data 516 for carrying the content EMM data 512 in response to PMT data 514 from the satellite CA system 310. The TMX 308 provides content EMM service data [[516]] 518 to the satellite encryption unit 306. The satellite encryption unit 306 encrypts the content EMM service data 516 in response to satellite encryption control data 515 provided by the satellite CA system 310. The satellite encryption unit 306

provides encrypted content EMM service data 518 to the TMX 304. The combined CAT 506 includes a descriptor to identify the satellite EMM data 504 and one or more descriptors to identify one or more content EMM services, respectively, in the EMM service data 516.